Gold Mining by HZL

6649. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) has entered in the field of gold mining;

(b) if so, whether it is going of its own with the help of the foreign company;

(c) the name of the States where gold mining is proposed to be undertaken by HZL; and

(d) the details of the joint venture finalised in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Hindustan Zinc Limited has commenced exploration for Gold at Jagpura in Banswara District of Rajasthan.

(b) Hindustan Zinc Limited is carrying out exploration on its own.

(c) Karnataka and Rajasthan.

(d) No joint venture has been finalised.

Illegal Mining

6650. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that illegal mining is rapidly progressing at the Delhi-Haryana border and its adjoining areas despite the Supreme Court's ban in 1990 in this connection:

(b) whether Government propose to take any concrete measures in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the time limit if any, in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Government of Haryana have stated that the Supreme Court has not issued any order banning mining at the Delhi-Haryana border or its adjoining areas. The Government of Haryana has stated that mining in this areas is on the basis of mining leases granted. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has stated that except of one or two cases no incidents of unauthorised mining has been detected.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Appointment of Chairman of BALCO

6651. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state what are the qualifications prescribed by Government for appointment of Chairman of BALCO Limited and by when Chairman of BALCO Limited is likely to be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): The qualifications prescribed for appointment to the post of Chairman, BALCO stipulate that the applicant should be at least a graduate from a recognised university with good academic record and should posses adequate experience at a senior level of management in a large organisation of good repute. He should not be more than 56 years in age The process for selection of Chairman cum Managing Director of BALCO has been initiated.

Modernisation of Projects in Mine Sector

6652. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of modernisation of projects under way in vari-